TIMES-VIRGINIAN
In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia

CITY PRESS ASSOCIATION

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EDITORIAL OPINION

THESE ROADSIDE EYESORES

(The Eastern Shore News)

Those terrible eyesores, the familiar automobile "graveyards," got into the informal luncheon conversation of a party of local businessmen the other day. The consensus was that "something ought to be done about'em."

Of course, automobiles and trucks which have outlived their usefulness, so to speak, have to be gotten out of the way. The trouble is that, as a general proposition, they are not pulled or towed far enough. All too often these "graveyards" are just outside corporate limits alongside heavily traveled highways. We can think off-hand of several approaches to towns which are marred by the sight of discarded or wrecked motor vehicles.

With all the open country to draw upon, there should be some form of regulation or control that would keep these "graveyards" away from public view. It is recognized that accessibilty figures in the creation and operation of these junkyards. The discarded machines, or at least parts and accessories, are salvaged and sold. However, we cannot see why it would not be possible to locate the "graveyards" so that they would be out of view from highways but still accessible. One idea we have heard advanced would be to require the erection of high fences to screen the unsightliness. Another suggestion is that the junk yards not be permitted within a certain distance from highways.

It seems a shame for the attractiveness of highway approaches to communities, large or small, to be marred by ugliness which could be prevented. And we think this could be done without imposing a great hardship on anyone. As it is, an affront against passing motorists and community pride is being committed.

The only dependable remedy is the proper sort of legislation against the roadside "graveside," and only strong public sentiment against these eyesores will bring about the enactment of such legislation.

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THE TRAVELING SECRETARY OF STATE

According to a recent news story in a New York newspaper, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles is setting quite a record for his travels. He left Tuesday for Paris, his third such trip within a month. In the last six weeks, Mr. Dulles has journeyed nearly 40,000 miles. He has visited with all over the globe, going to the Philippines, Formosa, Japan, Denver, Washington, West Germany, Britain, Ontario, New York, etc.

Mr. Dulles has been Secretary of State for twenty-one months. In that short period, he has flown some 160,000 miles on official trips. By the time he returns from his present trip, he will have been another 8,000 miles. The record includes 17,556 of official travel within the United States. He has been to London and Paris six times each. He has visited nearly thirty countries. He is likely to appear in Iceland, Newfoundland or the Azores, or any distant point.

The Military Transport Service provides him with one of its best planes. His plane is almost his office.

All of which shows how times have changed. Earlier Secretaries of State were largely desk men at an office in Washington. It is not up to John Q. Citizen to comment: 'Is this trip necessary?" By and large the trips are aimed at keeping up personal contacts with the men in the positions in other nations, and often informal conferences are held face to face, in an effort to reach settlements not always possible by correspondence.

WILSON SHOULD COPY HOOVER (J. EDGAR, THAT IS)

One of the many things we always admired about J. Edgar Hoover, the brilliant and successful head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, is that he has kept his office out of partisan politics. He has done a wonderful job — and uniformly so, under both Republican and Democratic Administrations. The American people have great respect for this outstanding public servant, who does his job and leaves partisan politics to others.

National security is the business of ALL Americans, regardless of political affiliation.

It seems to us that the same principle should apply to the Secretary of National Defense. The man who supervises the national defense has, in our opinion, no right to go junketing around the country raising cash for partisan politics and trying to be a stump speaker for influencing the election or the defeat of candidates for office.

The incumbent Secretary of Defense has weakened the prestige of his great office by so doing. The incumbent Secretary, Mr. Wilson recently lectured a $100 a plate political dinner, pleading partisan politics. The fact that he so lowered the dignity of the office, is more important to us than anything he said. And far more important than his recent "dog" statement. And Mr. Wilson had the brass to complain that his statements were taken up for political capital by leaders of the opposite party! What else could he expect? He is the one who put his office into partisan politics.

It would be a splendid thing for the welfare of our great nation, if the defense of America might be the concern of ALL the people, and not used as a political football.

We believe in public debate and in the right of all citizens to express their opinions on matters of public concern. But we draw the line for use of the office of Secretary of Defense for political purposes. Mr. Wilson would do well, we believe, to copy after Mr. J. Edgar Hoover in setting the pattern of his public relations.

THE DUST STILL BLOWS

(The New York Times)

This year has seen none of the dust storms and dust-created sunsets that occurred during the spectacular droughts of the Nineteen Thirties. None the less, as Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay said on Friday, serious drought conditions that could result in the creation of "dust-bowl" areas are again building up.

Last summer, the Geological Survey reports, arid conditions existed much farther to the east than during the dry spell of the Thirties. As Mr. McKay said, the drought has swung all over the globe, going to the Philippines, Formosa, Japan, Denver, Washington, West Germany, Britain, Ontario, New York, etc.

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VIRGINIA'S DRY LAND NEEDS A WATER POLICY

(Norfolk Virginian-Pilot)

A dozen Virginia counties are suffering serious consequences as the result of three successive years of drought. In some of the drought-affected counties the green pastures have vanished altogether. A picture on the front page of Thursday's Virginian-Pilot showed horses walking on the dry bottom of what was once a lake in King William County. Governor Stanley has now asked President Eisenhower to designate 28 Virginia counties as drought disaster areas.

The United States Geological Survey expects stream flow in Virginia to sink to the lowest rate recorded, if six to 10 inches rainfall does not come soon. The 50-year average rate of flow of the James River at Buchanan is 2,508 cubic feet per second. The present rate of flow is 415 cubic feet per second, according to the Roanoke Times. The same newspaperr states that the North Fork of the Shenandoah River in Shenandoah County is down to 68 cubic feet per second from an average of 568. In Culpeper County the use of water in the public schools has been liimted. Blacksburg has also imposed restrictions on water use.

That the three dry years have been chiefly responsible for the critical situation now faced by thousands of Virginia farmers and by some towns and municipalities as well as the counties, there can be no doubt. Yet it would be error to think of Virginia's dry land in terms of a three-year shortage of rainfall only.

When a state or region is caught in a cycle of drought, the reasons must often be sought beneath the surface of the dry land. A good watershed holds water, stores it in underground streams and rations it wisely into rivers and creeks. When there is a defective watershed with sparse forestation and land deeply bitten by erosion, there is less stored water and drought is likely to perpetuate itself. The facotrs that help to produce precipation by contributing moisure to the atmoephere are present in the land in the normal situation. Water from rivers and streams may be impounded and stored up in reservoirs to compensate for deficiencies in the watershed.

Virginia's rivers and streams are heavily polluted, a fact that makes the prospect of reservior-construction and irrigation far from bright. Timber has been cut prodigally in many of the older counties and their land are badly eroded.

A long-range conservation policy is needed in Virginia to effect a permanent cure of drought. The study of drought-causation that is just beginning by the Virginia Advisory Legislative Council must be broadened and deepened, and guided by scientists, who know geology and agriculture and water policy.

STATE GROWTH

(The St. Louis Post-Dispatch)

One of the most notable developments of the times is the rapid growth of the population of the United States. In a new calculation, the Census Bureau reports the total of men, women and children on August 1, reached the tremendous total of 162,760,000.

This is a national growth in 12 months of 1.7 per cent. In the nearly four and a half years since the last census was taken, April 1, 1950, the population of the nation has increased 7.6 per cent. If this rate of increase keeps up, more or less, the country will have perhaps 20 per cent more people in 1960 than it had in 1950. Between 1940 and 1950 the national rate of increase was 14.5 per cent.

The following table records state growth:

State	1950-53 % Gain or Loss	1940-50 % Gain or Loss
1. Nevado	26.3	45.3
2. Arizona	22.9	50.1
3. Florida	19.3	46.1
4. California	13.0	53.3
5. Delaware	11.4	19.4
6. New Mexico	9.4	28.1
7. Connecticuit	7.6	17.4
8. Michigan	7.5	21.2
9. Maryland	6.8	28.6
10. Texas	6.5	20.2
11. Utah	6.4	25.2
12. Louisiana	6.3	13.5
13. Colorado	5.6	18.0
14. New Jersey	5.5	16.2
15. Oregon	5.2	39.6
16. Ohio	5.2	15.0
17. Wyoming	4.5	15.9
18. Indiana	4.5	14.8
19. Virginia	3.9	23.5
20. Kansas	3.9	5.8
21. Massachusetts	3.8	8.7
22. Washington	3.7	37.0
23. Montana	3.4	5.6
24. Illinois	3.2	10.3
25. Georgia	3.0	10.3
26. Missouri	2.6	4.5
27. New York	2.5	10.0
28. Wisconsin	2.4	9.5
29. Minnesota	2.3	6.8
30. North Carolina	2.1	12.7
31. Idaho	1.7	12.1
32. South Carolina	1.7	11.4
33. Nebraska	1.5	0.7
34. Pennsylvania	1.3	6.0
35. Tennessee	0.8	12.9
36. Phode Island	0.7	11.0
37. Alabama	0.6	8.1
38. North Dakota	0.1	—3.5
39. South Dakota less than	0.1	—4.4
40. Oklahoma "		—4.4
41. Mississippi	—0.3	—0.2
42. Vermont	—0.6	—5.2
43. Iowa	—0.7	3.3
44. Kentucky	—0.9	3.0
45. Arkansas	—1.0	—2.0
46. Maine	—1.1	7.9
47. New Hampshire	—1.6	8.5
48. West Virginia	—3.4	3.4

NEW CHEVROLET ON DISPLAY OCT. 28

The new 1955 Chevrolet will go on display for the first time here on Thursday, October 28, at Moses Motor Company. Formal showing of the new models will continue through Friday and Saturday, October 29 - 30, according to C. T. Moses, local dealer.

A cordial invitation to the public to inspect the new models has been issued by Mr. Moses.

Reporting on a recent private preview of the new cars, he declared: "The 1955 model is the most completely new Chevrolet ever made. The details of the car, of course, must remain a secret right up to Show Day, but I can assure you that the automobile that Chevrolet is about to present to the driving public will prove a sensation."

The local "Show Days" will be timed with the simultaneous unveiling of the new 1955 models at Chevrolet dealerships throughout the United States.

The first Chevrolet was introduced to the American driving public in 1912. In that year the company produced 2,000 vehicles. Since then more than 30 million cars and trucks have rolled of Chevrolet assembly lines onto the roads and highways of America.

SPOUT SPRING 4-H CLUB

The Spout Spring 4-H Club held its first meeting of the season on October 11, at the ... The meeting was called to ... the leaders, Mrs. Arlene ... Whitehead. Blanks were ... member to be filled out. ... head gave a talk and ... ture on electricity, which ... the "inside" project for ... Also officers were elected ... lows:

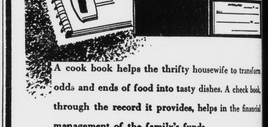
President, Richard Goode; Vice-president, Floyd ...; Secretary and treasurer, ... Franklin

Reporter, Sara Adams; Song leaders: Betty O'Brien, Sandra Pillow.

Money was presented to ... ners of awards at the ... Fair. The next meeting will ... in November.

GOVERNOR CLOSES HUNTING SEASON IN FOUR COUNTIES

On October 12, Governor ... B. Stanley, by authority ... him by Chapter 134, Acts ... 1954 General Assembly, ... the counties of Isle of Wight, ... semond, Norfolk and Prince ... closed to all types of hunting ... the period of the present ... hazard.



A cook book helps the thrifty housewife to transform odds and ends of food into tasty dishes. A check book, through the record it provides, helps in the financial management of the family's funds.

Yes, in most homes, the check book is just as important as the cook book—or more so. You are invited to carry your Checking Account at this bank.

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From where I sit ... *by* Joe Marsh
Smitty's Not-So-Silent Partner

Dropped into Smitty's gas station last week and met his new partner who turned out to be a real talker.

"What'll it be?" asked Smitty. Before I had a chance to answer I heard a strange voice "Fill her up! Fill her up!" And there was Smitty's partner – one of those parakeets perched next to the gas pump.

"Took me a month," Smitty said, "but I finally taught him to say those magic words. It's sure paid off — he's had a good influence on my unsightliness."

From where I sit, Smitty's bird may be good for business – and may get him a few laughs. But when *people* act like parakeets, they're not so funny. For instance, those who keep insisting over and over again that their neighbors shouldn't have a glass of temperate beer with their supper now and then. They're simply repeating their own ideas, without any regard for the rights of others.

Joe Marsh

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Va. Person in 9 Was in Hospital in 1951

... the fourth in a series of ... health in rural Virginia), ... approximately one Virginia ... 9 spent an average of 10.6 ... general hospital.

... facts regarding the present ... hospital situation are given ... recently completed Bulletin, ... ued to Health in Rural Vir- ... 1950-1952," by Dr. W. E. Gar- ... sociologist, V. P. I., Agri- ... Experiment Station.

... author points out the roll of ... pital in the modern system ... al care and emphasizes the ... need of hospitals as work-

... the hospital construction ... of the last decade approxi- ... 7,000 new general hospital ... have been added or author- ... bringing the total up to ... 1,475 acceptable beds, which ... about 5,000 beds below the ... total state need.

... Garnett says over 10 years ... U. S. Public Health Serv- ... the medical schools began ... the consideration of an in- ... state-wide hospital system ... would include:

... base hospitals, usually of ... and up, staffed with the ... skilled personnel and capable ... ing the most difficult cases ... type associated with medical ...

... hospitals of 100 or more ... capable of handling ordinary ... surgically complicated illnesses and ... located in regional centers. ... diate area hospitals, usual- ... beds and up—the type nor- ... found in smaller cities. ... area hospitals which ordi- ... have about 50 beds and a ... bed base of up to 50,000 ... persons.

... and community medical ... clinics which serve as head- ... for public health work. ... centers are sometimes en- ... into community clinics or ... service centers, which in ad- ... quarters for public health ... serve up to 25 hospital beds, ... space for local doctors, and ... rest for their joint use.

... part of the Hill-Burton Hospi- ... and Construction Act in ... made realization of an inte- ... system possible.

... What has Virginia done? In ... of the Hill-Burton Act ... have gone to construct gen- ... hospitals and public health cen- ... and is extended only for non-profit institutions and only to hospitals of 50 beds and up. Hill-Burton aid can be used for construction only. The local community receiving such aid must guarantee operating funds for at least three years. Virginia has distributed hospital construction aid on the basis of a formula of 55% from state and federal funds and 45% from local sources. Through July 1, 1954, Virginia hospital and health center construction with Hill-Burton fund aid amounted to about $47,600,000 dollars of which $18,100,000 came from federal funds, $3,600,000 from state funds, and $25,900,000 from local funds, public and private. The 1954 legislature added $2,300,000 to state appropriations for hospital construction. Fourteen states have made larger state appropriations for hospital construction than has Virginia.

In Virginia the local hospital construction funds come largely through private construction, but the governing bodies of some areas have made contributions for construction as well as contributing to, or guaranteeing, operating costs. For instance, Giles County voted a bond issue of $350,000 to build a new hospital, which is paying at the rate of $15,000 yearly. The county contributed $25,000 in 1951 for a hospital - operating deficit and an additional $10,000 in 1952 to be used if needed. Warren County made a $25,000 contribution to construction and gives $10,000 annually toward maintenance. Halifax County gave $57,250 for construction and pledged $10,000 a year for three years for operating costs if needed.

Up to September, 1953, public aid had been authorized for 35 new hospitals or additions to old ones and 19 public health centers.

Four public health centers are located in hospital buildings. The Louisa County Medical Service Center, the only institute of this type under the current hospital construction program, houses not only the county health department but also includes space for local doctors' offices and 23 hospital beds.

The hospital construction program completed or authorized to September, 1953, will provide Virginia with 2,299 new general hospital beds. The average cost of the 1,608 beds in new hospitals was about $17,700 per bed. Where there were additions to old hospitals, the average cost per bed was somewhat less.

The budget advised for the 1954 General Assembly contained $2,300,000 for hospital construction under the Hill-Burton program.

There has been little private hospital construction in the past five years. The United Mine Workers of America have well-advanced plans for a 60-bed community hospital at Norton in Wise County. This will be affiliated with a larger district hospital under the same auspices in Harlen, Ky.

Dr. Garnett says rural people are concerned with having good general hospital facilities in three major ways: (1) hospitals being so distributed as to encourage doctors to settle in rural areas; (2) hospital facilities being readily available in time of need and at reasonable cost and (3) hospitals giving increased interest to preventative medicine especially through periodic physical examinations with equipment not available to the average doctor.

Confronted with the difficulty of raising the necessary matching funds for construction and peration, some rural areas have not yet applied for available aid through the Hill-Burton funds. In many rural areas, Dr. Garnett says, apparently the most promising way to meet less complicated hospital needs is by developing medical service centers such as that recently completed in Louisa.

Beds are now available for about 1,900 Virginia tubercular patients —1,142 in the three state sanitoria, 400 in the four city sanitoria, 298 in the mental hospitals and penal farms, and 800 in veterans' facilities. All have long waiting lists. It is estimated that over 1,200 additional beds are needed. A 200-bed unit for Negro patients is under consideration in connection with the Medical College of Virginia. At least 1,000 more beds for Negro patients are needed. Dr. W. F. Wagner, director of the state's division of tuberculosis control, estimates that there are 15,000 active cases of tuberculosis in Virginia not undergoing hospital treatment.

Dr. Garnett says it is the obligation of every citizen to support adequate financing of needed hospital facilities—general, tubercular mental and chronic; and it is also the obligation of the citizen to make intelligent use of the several types of hospital facilities. "Hospitals in the future will serve more as centers for popular education in medical problems and other phases of preventive medicine instead of being concerned only with the practice of curative medicine as has been the case in the past," he says.

SHARE OF FOOD DOLLAR SHRINKING

The farmer's share of the consumer's food dollar has declined at a relatively slow rate since 1945. The downward trend is expected to continue mainly because:

1. The modern homemakers are demanding and receiving more specialized products and services.

2. The distance between the farm and the dining table is becoming greater as the trend toward specialization and urbanization continues.

3. The major items of cost in the marketing process are likely to increase rather than decline — particularly wage rates and transportation charges. Today there are nearly 5 million persons employed by firms marketing farm food products or nearly one million more than in 1940. The average wage rate for workers in the food marketing industries in 1953 was neary three times larger than in 1940 and 25% more than in 1950. Transportation rates have approximately doubled on many agricultural products since 1945.

The question naturally arises — are middlemen necessary?

Unless the present economic system — that consumers through their expeditures dictate the production and distribution pattern — changes radically, middlemen or marketing organizations will continue to cater to known consumer desires and seek even further ways of obtaining a larger share of the total consumer dollar. If the fact be accepted that the services should and will be performed, the only remaining question is, "Who can provide the services most efficiently"?

Generally speaking, those who specialize in marketing can or there would be little basis for specialization. Needless to say, specialization and exchange have contributed greatly to the present standard of living.

Richard D. Robinson
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also Hellgate
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Joan Crawford-Sterling Hayden in
Johnny Guitar

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also Japanese War Bride
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Charles Winniger - Arleen Wheland in
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